

Protecting Wisconsin's Lakes and Rivers for Everyone...

Preliminary proposals to update Wisconsin's statewide minimum shoreland development standards were presented to the public this fall. Eight listening sessions were held in November and December of 2003 to gather first impressions of the proposals developed by a 28-member advisory committee and to collect suggestions on improvements to the committee's recommendations.

Over 850 people attended listening sessions and nearly 1,000 written comments were received. We are now working on a first draft of new rule language for Ch. NR 115, Wis. Admin. Code, reflecting both public comments and advisory committee recommendations, while meeting the statutory objectives and goals of the program. Our goal is to have public hearings this summer on the proposed changes to the Shoreland Management Program.

We have relied on an open and participatory process for this revision. We believe that this will be key to helping us find that proper balance between property owners' desires and the public's rights in Wisconsin waters.

For more information on the rule revision process, including future public hearings, please see our web-site at www.dnr.wi.gov, go down to the "Go to some topics" drop-down menu and select "Shoreland Management" or contact Toni Herkert at 608-266-0161 or Toni.Herkert@dnr.state.wi.us.

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